VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT FOR A TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is seeking written and oral comments from interested persons on the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Plan (IP) to address water quality impairments in the Beaver Creek and Little Creek watersheds. Little Creek was listed as impaired on Virginia's 1998 303(d) Total Maximum Daily Load Priority List and Report due to violations of the state's water quality standard for fecal coliform bacteria. Beaver Creek was listed as impaired on Virginia's Section 303(d) Total Maximum Daily Load and Priority List and Report 1998 and 2002 due to violations of the state's water quality standards for fecal coliform bacteria and violations of the general standard (benthics).

The impairments are as follows: Beaver Creek segment (13.46 miles) extends from the Route 611 bridge near the headwaters to the Tennessee state line. Little Creek (4.81 miles) segment consists of the mainstem from its headwaters to the Tennessee state line. Beaver Creek and Little Creek flow through the City of Bristol. Total length of both impaired stream segments is 18.27 miles.

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia requires DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water body contained in Virginia's

303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report. The TMDLs were completed and are available at www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl.

Section 62.1-44.19:7.A and Section 62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia requires the development of an IP for approved TMDLs. The IP should provide measurable goals and the date of expected achievement of water quality objectives. The IP should also include the corrective actions needed and their associated costs, benefits, and environmental impacts.

A public meeting on the development of the TMDL IP for Beaver Creek and Little Creek will be held on Thursday, December 7th, 2006, 7:00 p.m. in the new Bristol Public Library, VA. The library is located on 701 Goode Street, Bristol, VA (276) 645-8780. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the proposed reductions needed in fecal bacteria and sediment and to present the draft IP.

The public comment period for this phase of the IP development will end on **January 12th**. A fact sheet on the development of the Beaver Creek and Little Creek TMDL IP is available upon request or can be viewed on the DEQ website at www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl. Questions or information requests should be addressed to Theresa Carter. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to Theresa Carter, Department of Conservation and Recreation, 252 West Main Street, Ste. 3, Abingdon, Virginia, 24210, telephone (276) 676-5418, fax (276) 676-5527 or e-mail theresa.carter@dcr.virginia.gov.